



This project is funded by the EU

Promotion of Civil Society Dialogue between EU and Turkey Project

'How might Turkey contribute to the EU's Knowledge Society?'

Meeting the Challenge

The European Commission's Lisbon Declaration challenges the EU 'to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion'. To rise to this challenge the Education systems in the EU have

been transforming themselves to ensure that they provide the most relevant services to strengthen the Knowledge Society. In preparing for Accession to the EU, Turkey's education providers must also rise to the challenge of making the Turkish economy knowledge-based and competitive. But what approach and what reforms will be most effective for Turkish Higher Education to meet this challenge?

To help answer this question, Sabanci University has entered into partnerships with Universities in Italy (Sienna), the UK (Oxford) and Sweden (Uppsala) to undertake comparative research into models of Higher Education in Europe. The results of the research, to be carried out during 2009, will be shared with policy makers and University Boards across Turkey, and at locations in the EU, through a series of papers and seminars.

The Benefits

This research project is not only going to provide case studies and benchmarks for policy formulation, but is also already reaping rewards in terms of strengthening the dialogue between educationalists in the EU and those in Turkey. And in the long term, by influencing how Higher Education is organised in Turkey, the project will, albeit in a small way, be making a contribution towards Turkey's convergence with the EU's progressive knowledge society and the economic rewards associated with it.

Partners

- Italy, Università Degli Studi Di Siena Facolta Di Economia Richar Goodwin
- England, The Chancellor Masters and Scholars of The University of Oxford
- Sweden, Uppsala University

"Turkey can only develop a knowledge-based economy through an education sector transformed by learning lessons from EU partners"



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The Project Facts

A total budget of 255,000 Euros

- 16 months project ending in October 2009
- Activities include supporting 4 research teams in 4 different European cities, a range of seminars and workshops, and dissemination activities including publications, a final Conference, and a web portal.

For Further Information:

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